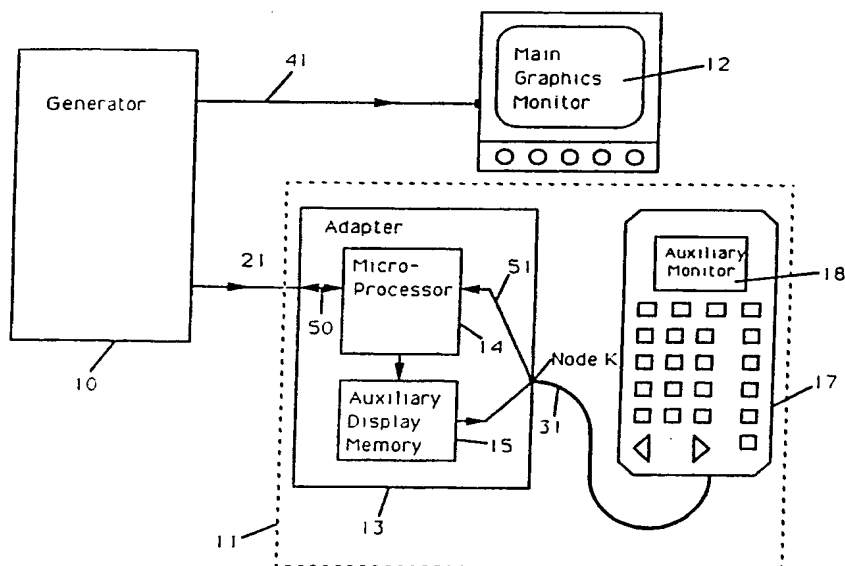


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## INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

<b>(51) International Patent Classification 5 :</b>  <b>G09G 3/02</b>	<b>A1</b>	<b>(11) International Publication Number:</b> <b>WO 92/03816</b>  <b>(43) International Publication Date:</b> 5 March 1992 (05.03.92)
<b>(21) International Application Number:</b> PCT/US91/05859 <b>(22) International Filing Date:</b> 16 August 1991 (16.08.91) <b>(30) Priority data:</b> 568,588                      16 August 1990 (16.08.90)                      US <b>(71) Applicant:</b> GENERAL PARAMETRICS CORP. [US/US]; 1250 9th Street, Berkeley, CA 94710 (US). <b>(72) Inventors:</b> BASKIN, Herbert, B. ; 264 Yale Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94798 (US). DuVIVIER, Joseph, A. ; 2425 East 28th Street, Oakland, CA 94601 (US). SANDERS, Eugene ; 5915 Chelton Drive, Oakland, CA 94611 (US). <b>(74) Agents:</b> TAYLOR, Edwin, H. et al.; Blakely, Sokoloff, Taylor & Zafman, 12400 Wilshire Boulevard, 7th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90025 (US).		<b>(81) Designated States:</b> AT (European patent), BE (European patent), CH (European patent), DE, DE (European patent), DK (European patent), ES (European patent), FR (European patent), GB, GB (European patent), GR (European patent), IT (European patent), JP, LU (European patent), NL (European patent), SE (European patent).  <b>Published</b> <i>With international search report.          Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>

**(54) Title:** A DISPLAY CONTROL DEVICE INCORPORATING AN AUXILIARY DISPLAY**(57) Abstract**

A method for controlling a system for presenting to an audience images on a primary display (12) or displays that incorporates an auxiliary monitor (18). The auxiliary monitor (18) may be used in a variety of ways to assist in the presentation of information on the primary display (12). The preferred embodiment of the present invention comprises a hand-held display control (17) including an array of key switches providing control of the main monitor (12) and an auxiliary monitor (18) allowing the operator to view any of several options. These options include a duplicate of the image being displayed on the main monitor (12), the next image to be displayed on the main monitor (12), any other image available from the image generation means (10), a list of the images available from the image generation means (10), and notes associated with each image or with the entire presentation.

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A DISPLAY CONTROL DEVICE INCORPORATING  
AN AUXILIARY DISPLAY

BACKGROUND OF THE PRESENT INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to display control devices such as  
5 remote controls, and, more particularly to display control devices  
incorporating an auxiliary monitor to provide the operator controlling the  
main presentation system with private access to slide previews and slide  
information.

2. Prior Art

10 Previous display control devices, such as remote controls for slide  
projectors or computer-generated electronic displays, provide the  
operator with an array of control functions such as slide number selection,  
processing direction of slide presentation, etc. The control functions of the  
prior art controls range from a limited number of fixed controls to a freely  
15 programmable remote control. However, these prior art control devices  
do not provide the operator with the ability to preview an image before it  
is displayed to the audience. Furthermore, the operator is unable to view  
other information applicable to the presentation. While such information  
provides the operator with necessary facts and details concerning a  
20 particular slide or sequence of slides, often the information is not suited for  
audience consumption.

Both of these features, that is, the ability to preview the slide and  
privately access information from the main system, greatly enhance the  
utility of a remote control by placing less reliance on the operator's  
25 memory. Additionally, the ability to preview and have information on a  
readable liquid crystal display allows the operator to give a coherent,  
professional presentation without unnecessary paper shuffling or loss of  
information.

The present invention provides these desirable features by  
30 incorporating an auxiliary monitor within the remote control. This  
provides the operator with private access to information from the

presentation system.

## SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

During the majority of a presentation, the main monitor receives a main output signal from a generator means. While this is occurring, an  
5 image is displayed on the hand-held remote control device. This image can be derived from capturing the image from the main output signal, generated from the generator means separately from the main output signal and stored in an auxiliary display memory or a combination of capturing an image as well as generating an overlay image or text.

10 In the first alternative embodiment, the operator communicates with the generator means via a control adapter device that also controls the main output signal, requesting the generator means to prepare an image for display on the hand-held remote control. The requested image is generated separately from the main output signal. The requested image is  
15 written into an auxiliary display memory and then to the auxiliary monitor.

In the second alternative embodiment, the operator's request for an image on the auxiliary monitor triggers a capture sequence. During the majority of a presentation, the main monitor receives a duplicate of the main output signal from the control adapter device. While this is  
20 occurring, the image displayed on the remote control device auxiliary monitor is derived either from the main output signal or from an auxiliary display memory. When the operation of the remote control device requires a new image to be displayed on the auxiliary monitor, the following sequence of events occurs:

25 First, the control adapter device communicates with the generator means via a bi-directional interface separate from the main output signal, causing the generator means to prepare to display the image desired for the auxiliary monitor.

Second, the generator means communicates with the control  
30 adapter device that it is ready to switch the contents of the main video signal to the image designated from the auxiliary monitor.

Third, the control adapter device disables, on instructions from a microprocessor device within the control adapter device means, the signal producing the current image on the auxiliary monitor. The current image being displayed on the main monitor is stored in auxiliary display memory as a digital copy. This is accomplished by converting the main output signal to digital information using one or more high-speed analog-to-digital (A/D) converters. Alternately, if generator means is capable of outputting digital signals that represent the contents of the main output signal, the A/D converters and associated low-pass filters can be avoided.

Fourth, the generator means switches the contents of the main video signal so that this signal transmits the image desired to be displayed on the auxiliary monitor. The control adapter device stores this image in its auxiliary display memory. Simultaneously, the previously stored image in the auxiliary display memory, that is, the copy of the image which was being viewed in the main monitor, is sent to the main monitor. This process continues for one field or one frame of display time, according to the capacity of the auxiliary display memory in the control adapter device.

Finally, after the new image has been stored in the auxiliary display memory, the generator means switches the contents of the main output signal back to the prior image being displayed to the audience on the main monitor. The control adapter device simultaneously is switched back to sending a main output signal to the main monitor. Thus, the image on the main monitor has only momentarily been replaced by a copy. The auxiliary display memory then provides the stored image to the auxiliary monitor in hand-held remote control device.

This procedure is designed to minimize the amount of time that the contents of the auxiliary display memory are being viewed by the audience, thus allowing the use of a more economical low-resolution display memory and more cost effective support circuitry. The auxiliary monitor used in the preferred embodiment is typically a small liquid crystal display (LCD) screen, similar to the prior-art screens used in hand held

televisions, such as the Sony Video Walkman™. The auxiliary monitor is generally incorporated in a hand-held remote control device. The auxiliary monitor may also be mounted in a remote location accessible by the operator. However, the small hand-held screen allows the use of the  
5 more economical electronics for generating the image to be viewed by the operator.

The preferred embodiment of the present invention is practiced using a combination of the first and second alternative embodiments. The image to be displayed on the auxiliary monitor is captured from the main  
10 output signal. The sequence from capturing an image from the main output signal follows the same sequence as summarized in reference to the second alternative embodiment. The text or auxiliary graphics are generated separately from the main output signal and transmitted to the control adapter device and stored in the auxiliary memory device. The  
15 text or auxiliary graphics are subsequently combined and displayed on the auxiliary monitor.

While the above-reference sequence illustrates the flow of the present invention, the Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiment describes the apparatus and practice of the present invention.

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 is a block diagram of the present invention practiced in a first alternative embodiment.

5

Figure 2 is a block diagram of the present invention practiced in a second alternative embodiment.

Figure 3 is a block diagram of the present invention practiced in a preferred embodiment.

10

Figure 4 is a block diagram of a frame buffer storage device from the preferred embodiment of the present invention.

Figure 5 is a block diagram of an overlay buffer storage device from the preferred embodiment of the present invention.

15

Figures 6 (a-e) illustrate a sequence of events used to capture an image from a main display to an auxiliary monitor of the present invention as practiced in the preferred embodiment, as well as in the second alternative embodiment as described in Figure 2.

20

Figure 7 is a block diagram of a hand-held remote control incorporating an auxiliary monitor of the present invention as practiced in all embodiments.

25

Figures 8 (a-b) are block diagrams of two variations of the present invention as practiced in the first alternative embodiment of the present invention.



## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PRESENT INVENTION

An invention is described that provides for a hand-held remote control for use with a presentation system utilizing graphical images inputted into a computer or other graphical generation means. As a result of the present invention, an operator of the presentation system is better prepared and the presentation progresses smoothly due to the ability of the operator to preview the program during the presentation before the next series of displays or slides are presented to the audience. In the following description, numerous specific details are set forth such as specific electronic devices and model numbers, in order to provide a more thorough understanding of the present invention. It will be obvious, however, to one skilled in the art that the present invention may be practiced without the specific details. In other instances, well-known devices have not been described in detail in order not to unnecessarily obscure the present invention.

Figure 1 describes a first alternative embodiment of the present invention. The display control device 11 is used in combination with a graphics generator means 10 (image generation means) and a main monitor 12 (primary display means). The display control device 11 comprises a control adapter device 13, incorporating a microprocessor 14 (display control logic means) and an auxiliary display memory 15 (storage means) and a remote control device 17 (remote control means), incorporating an auxiliary monitor 18 (secondary display means). The remote control device 17 also incorporates an array of pushbutton switches. Other input means such as a trackball can also be used to control the generator means 10 and the images displayed on the main monitor 12, as well as the auxiliary monitor 18.

The auxiliary monitor 18, as illustrated in Figures 1 and 7, is typically a small liquid crystal display capable of receiving and displaying an NTSC encoded video signal from the auxiliary display memory 15.

The monitor 18 can be adjusted for brightness, color saturation, and hue, using controls 181-183.

The keypad of the remote control device 17 used to practice all the embodiments of the present invention, typically is comprised of  
5 keyswitches, a shift register and a keypad serial clock source which derives a clocking signal from an input signal from the control adapter device 13. The keypad serial output signal 51, coupled at Node K, is transmitted to the input of the microprocessor 14. The microprocessor 14 then instructs, via a bi-directional interface 50, the generator means 10 to  
10 conform with the instructions entered by the operator on the keypad of the remote control device 17.

Referring again to Figure 1, the graphics generator means 10 (image generation means) as practiced in the present invention is a computer, but any graphics generator means well-known in the prior art  
15 may be used and still be within the spirit and scope of the present invention.

Furthermore, while Figure 1 illustrates a single monitor as the main monitor 12, it should be realized that multiple monitors or other means of presenting images to an audience may be identified as the main monitor  
20 12. The number of main monitors 12 is dependent on the size of the audience, the size of the monitors, and on the number of images to be simultaneously displayed to the audience.

Additionally, please note that an audience, as defined by the present invention, encompasses any viewer or viewers of a presentation or  
25 graphics display who is not the operator of the presentation. An example of an audience is a sales force attending a sales meeting, wherein the operator is defined as the sales or marketing manager. Another example is a group of students, wherein the a teacher is defined as an operator. It should be realized that the above examples are merely illustrative of  
30 potentially different categories of audience/operator combinations and in no way limit the audience/operator combinations applicable to the practice

of the present invention.

In the first alternative embodiment, as illustrated in Figure 1, a primary signal 41 of the generator means 10 is coupled to the input of the main monitor 12. In addition, a secondary signal 21 is generated by the generator means 10 and is transmitted to the microprocessor 14 via a bi-directional interface 50. Primary visual images are displayed on the main monitor 12 (primary display means). Secondary visual images are displayed on the auxiliary monitor 18 (secondary display means).

The primary signal 41 could be a red, green and blue (RGB) video signal or a black and white signal or a video signal with encoded color. The secondary signal 21 may be any of several representations of graphical information to be displayed on the auxiliary monitor 18, including a representation in a graphics language, a bit map, or a run length representation. The microprocessor 14 processes the secondary signal 21. The processed signal is sent to auxiliary display memory 15. A secondary output signal 3 is then sent from auxiliary display memory 15 to the auxiliary display 18 through the control device 17.

Referring to Figures 8a and 8b, alternative implementations of the first alternative embodiment are illustrated. Within the scope of the first alternative embodiment, the microprocessor 14 may be replaced by display control logic device 98. Also, the adapter 13 may be housed within the generator means 10.

Alternatively, as illustrated in Figure 8b, the auxiliary display memory 15 and the display control logic device 98 may be integrated with main display logic and memory, thus providing the output of the generator means 10 intended for the main graphics monitor 12. In this implementation, the generator means 10, housing the control adapter device 13, simultaneously provides output both for the main graphics monitor 12 and the auxiliary monitor 18 from the same or different parts of the combined main display memory and auxiliary display memory 97.

It should be realized that the two implementations of the first

alternative embodiment and illustrated in Figures 8a and 8b are merely examples of variations of the present invention and in no way limit the scope of the present invention.

Typically, the operator controls the presentation being displayed on the main monitor 12 by means of a remote control device 17. By keying  
5 in commands to the generator means 10 via the remote control device 17, the operator can control the images or sequence of images displayed on the main monitor 12 as well as how quickly and how long the images are displayed.

10 Using the present invention, the operator, via the remote control device 17 and a control adapter device 13 has the ability to preview the image for the main monitor 12 on an auxiliary monitor 18 housed within the remote control device 17. In addition, to previewing the next image in a sequence, the operator has access to private notes concerning the  
15 presentation, previously stored within the generator means 10. The ability to access previously stored notes is beneficial to the operator, especially when the presentation to an audience is a combination of graphic images displayed on the main monitor 12 and an oral presentation by the operator. The operator may also view on the auxiliary monitor 18 a display of  
20 system control information not typically displayed on the main monitor 12.

The control of images on the auxiliary monitor 18 via a keypad on the remote control device 17 is similar to the control of the images displayed on the main monitor 12. The keypad output 51 is coupled to a microprocessor 14 within the control adapter device 13. When the  
25 operator wishes to view the next image or access private notes, a command signal is sent from the remote control device 17 to the microprocessor 14 and then to the generator means 10 via the processed command signal from the microprocessor 14. The desired images or notes are generated by generator means 10 and returned to the  
30 microprocessor 14 through a bi-directional interface 50. The microprocessor 14 converts the secondary signal 21 received from the

generator means 10 into an image in an auxiliary display memory 15. The secondary image (secondary visual image) stored in the auxiliary display memory 15 is continuously outputted to the auxiliary monitor 18 through the remote control device 17.

5           Although the first alternative embodiment is the simplest example of practicing the present invention, it necessitates drawing graphical information separately into the generator means 10 display memory (not shown) and into the auxiliary display memory 15. The two display memories typically do not have the same display resolution so some  
10   display artifacts will typically be generated. Also, performance of the system may be slower due to the need to draw graphical information in both display memories. However, this embodiment is more generally applicable, as well as the easier method to implement into practice.

          Figure 2 describes a second alternative embodiment. As in the first  
15   embodiment, described in Figure 1, a graphics generator means 10 outputs a signal 41. In the second alternative embodiment, signal 41 is comprised of RGB and Sync signals. The output signal 41 is coupled to the input of analog switch 16 (switching means), as well as to the input of an auxiliary display memory 15. The output of the analog switch 16 is  
20   coupled to the input of a main monitor 12.

          When the operator seeks to view an image on an auxiliary monitor 18, the request is sent to a microprocessor 14 via commands from a keypad located in the remote control device 17. The keypad in the second alternative embodiment is comprised of individual keypad buttons.  
25   However, any functionally equivalent input device such as a trackball would still be within the spirit and scope of the present invention.

          After the microprocessor 14 receives instructions requesting an image for the auxiliary monitor 18, the microprocessor 14 sends a command signal to the generator means 10 to begin the process whereby  
30   the desired image is transferred to the auxiliary display memory 15.

          The microprocessor 14 is coupled to the generator means 10

through a bi-directional interface 50. The bi-directional interface 50 can be, but is not limited to, a serial interface, such as an RS232 port, a PC bus or a parallel interface, such as a SCSI interface. Alternately, another type of bidirectional channel of the required bandwidth may be used, such as an infrared or radio frequency link.

The capture sequence employing means for capturing and storing used in the preferred embodiment (see Figure 3) and the second alternative embodiment (see Figure 2) for capturing and storing an image from the output signal 41 for the auxiliary monitor 18 is illustrated in Figures 6 (a)-(e). The five steps shown typically take place within five successive video field times.

Typically, a first image being displayed on the main monitor 12 is stored in a first buffer storage device 301. The generator means 10 draws a second image for display on the auxiliary monitor in a second buffer storage device 302. Typically, the second image is different than the first image displayed on the main monitor 12. The generator means 10 must be able to switch the contents of the output signal 41 between the first buffer 301 and the second buffer 302 within a vertical blanking interval.

In the first step of the capture sequence, in reference to Figure 6(a), a "capture image" command is received by the control adapter device 13. The output signal 41 of the first image sent from the first buffer storage device 301 is received by the main monitor 12. Whatever image currently stored in the frame buffer storage device 23 is displayed on the auxiliary monitor 18.

In the second and third steps, referring to Figures 6(b) and 6(c), the auxiliary monitor 18 is momentarily blanked while the frame buffer storage device 23 is loaded with the first image currently being sent to the main monitor 12. Once the first image is loaded into the frame buffer storage device 23, the control adapter device 13 is instructed to wait one field time, as shown in Figure 6(c). The frame buffer storage device 23

now contains a copy of the image displayed on the main monitor 12. The auxiliary monitor remains blanked until the fifth step, illustrated in Figure 6(e).

5 In the fourth step, as illustrated in Figure 6(d), the control adapter device 13 captures the second image stored in the second buffer storage device 302 into the frame buffer storage device 23. Simultaneously, the first image, previously stored in the frame buffer storage device 23 is sent to the main monitor 12, via the analog switch 16 (switching means) shown in Figures 2 and 3. The switching means includes means for setting the  
10 analog switch 16 to provide a connection between the generator means 10 and the main monitor 12, or a connection between frame buffer storage device 23 and main monitor 12. This permits the loading of the frame buffer storage device 23 with a second image while giving the appearance of an uninterrupted first image on the main monitor 12.

15 Referring to Figure 6(e), the generator means 10 returns to outputting the contents of the first buffer 301 to the main monitor 12. The frame buffer storage device 23 now contains a copy of the image in the second buffer 302 and the auxiliary monitor 18 is unblanked so that this copy is displayed on the auxiliary monitor 18. Also, a "capture complete"  
20 command is sent by the control adapter device 13 to the generator means 10.

If the operator wishes to view the same image being displayed on the main monitor 12 on the auxiliary monitor 18, the microprocessor 1 causes the RGB inputs to the auxiliary display memory 15 to pass directly  
25 to the auxiliary monitor 18. This is accomplished either by continuously capturing and displaying the contents of the frame buffer 23, as in figure 6(d), or, as in the preferred embodiment, with a second analog switch 99 (see Figure 4).

The sequence of capturing an image from the output signal 41 is  
30 applicable to both the second alternative embodiment and to the preferred embodiment as described below in reference to Figures 3-5.

Referring to Figure 3, a block diagram describing the preferred embodiment of the present invention is detailed. A graphics generator means 10 generates a primary RGB signal 41. The signal 41 is coupled to the input of a display control device 11. The display control device 11  
5 provides an output signal identical to the RGB signal 41 which is coupled to the input of a main monitor 12.

The display control device 11 is comprised of control adapter device 13 and a remote control device 17. The control adapter device 13 is coupled to the generator means 10 via an interface that carries the  
10 primary RGB signal 41, as well as coupled to a bi-directional interface 50 that carries an auxiliary signal 21. The control adapter device 13 is also coupled via an interface 31 to the remote control device 17.

In a manner similar to the practice of the first and second alternative embodiments, the operator can control the images on the main  
15 monitor 12, as well as the images on the auxiliary monitor 18.

The operator keys in the instructions for the generator means 10 on the remote control device 17. The serially encoded keypad output, coupled at Node K is transmitted to the input of a microprocessor 14. The microprocessor 14 is coupled via a bi-directional interface 50 to the  
20 generator means 10 and to an auxiliary display memory 15 via a second bi-directional interface 60. The auxiliary display memory 15 is comprised of a frame buffer storage device 23 (see Figure 4) and an overlay buffer storage device 19 (see Figure 5). The frame buffer storage device 23 stores the image captured from the RGB signal 41. The image is  
25 captured at a point prior to the analog switch 16.

Additionally, the microprocessor 14, upon instructions from the operator through remote control device 17, can draw text or black and white graphics into the overlay buffer storage device 19. The text or the black and white graphics can then be used in combination with the RGB  
30 signal 41 received from the generator means 10. Thus, the practice of the invention according to the preferred embodiment incorporates features



of both the first and second alternative embodiments. Some of the features include, graphical information, including text, written by the adapter microprocessor 14 into the overlay buffer 19 of the auxiliary display memory 15, also images for display on the auxiliary monitor 18  
5 captured in the frame buffer 23 of the auxiliary display memory, using the capture sequence illustrated in Figure 6.

Once an image requested by the operator is stored in the frame buffer storage device 23, it is continuously displayed on an auxiliary monitor 18 contained within the remote control device 17. Additionally,  
10 the requested image output, identified as Node G is NTSC encoded and displayed on an optional NTSC encoded monitor 24. The optional monitor 24 provides the operator with a larger screen than is available with the remote control device 17.

Figure 4 describes the frame buffer storage device 23 shown in  
15 Figure 3. Additionally, the frame buffer storage device 23, as a component of the auxiliary display memory 15 of Figure 3 could also function as the stand alone auxiliary display memory 15 of Figure 2. However, this illustration, as well as all model numbers disclosed are merely examples and in no way should be construed to limit the practice  
20 of the present invention.

The frame buffer storage device 23 is comprised of three 6-bit A/D converters 104-106. Some converters are commonly available under a part designation Fujitsu MB40576. Three pole linear phase filters constructed of discrete passive capacitors and inductors are used as the  
25 three low-pass filters 101-103 for the color signals red (R), green (G) and blue (B). Two devices commonly available under a part designation 74F257 function as the multiplexer 107. The two 256K x 4 DRAMs 112-113 are commonly available under a part designation Toshiba TC514256APL-80. The three digital-to-analog (D/A) converters 109-111  
30 are constructed from discrete resistors. The RGB-to-NTSC encoder 24 is a commonly available device. One such device is available under the

part designation Motorola MC1377. The RGB signal is encoded to the American system of color telecasting designated by the National Television System Committee (NTSC) via the RGB-to-NTSC encoder 24. However, this encoding system simply provides a convenient way to transmit a color signal to the auxiliary monitor 18 in the remote control device 17 and should in no way be construed to limit the practice of the present invention.

The primary RGB signal 41 is received as analog inputs from the generator means 10 and is coupled to the input of the display control device 11. The RGB signals are coupled to the frame buffer storage device 23 at Nodes A, B, and C, respectively. The RGB signals are then passed through their respective low-pass filters 101-103. The filtered output is coupled to the input of the three A/D converters 104-106. The output of three A/D converters 104-106 is coupled to a multiplexer 107 that selects 16 bits from the 18 bits output by the A/D converters 104-106 and multiplexes the output to 8 bits to a data bus 108 of two 256K x 4 DRAMs 112-113.

The data in successive addresses of the two 256K by 4 bit DRAMs 112-113 that form the display memory are continuously read, during unblanked display time, to the D/A converters 109-111 to generate the RGB output signal 25 to a logic block 117 (in this case, formed by three PAL16L8s). Typically, green is encoded in 6 bits while red and blue are encoded in 5 bits each. However, other combinations of RGB bits could be used. For each display pixel the DRAMs 112-113 are read twice, in fast page mode, to provide the required 16 bits.

In an alternative mode of operation that provides for higher luminance resolution, the RGB signal is encoded in 4 bits each and the G signal is sampled at a rate of 512 samples per horizontal scan which is twice the rate for R and B, which are only sampled at 256.

When the control adapter device 13 stores an image, the digitized RGB is multiplexed onto the 8-bit data bus 108 of the two DRAMs

112-113 and is written, in two fast page mode cycles, into successive DRAM addresses. This writing is interleaved with reading of data so that the output of the frame buffer storage device 23 is not interrupted. The writing of data to a given location in the display memory is delayed by  
5 several pixel times from the read of that location in order to accommodate the delays of the input filters 101-103, of A/D converters 104-106 and of D/A converters 109-111. This delay allows the output of the frame buffer storage device 23 to align with the main output signal 41 from the generator means 10.

10 The RGB output of the frame buffer storage device 23 is then converted to an NTSC encoded signal via an NTSC encoder 24 to provide an output signal for the auxiliary monitor 18. During image storage in the auxiliary display memory 15, the RGB output of the frame buffer storage device 23 is switched, via the analog switch 16 to the main  
15 graphics monitor 12 in place of the main output signal 41 (see Figure 6d).

Figure 5 illustrates the overlay buffer storage device 19 as shown in Figure 3. Additionally, the overlay buffer storage device 19, as a component of the auxiliary display memory 15 of Figure 3 could also function as the stand alone auxiliary display memory 15 of Figure 1.  
20 However, this is merely used as an example and should in no way be construed to limit the practice of the present invention.

The overlay buffer storage device 19 is a second display memory device. In the preferred embodiment, the overlay buffer 19 is a 1-bit-per-pixel bit-mapped display buffer used to display text and graphics overlaid  
25 on the output of the frame buffer storage device 23.

The horizontal resolution of the overlay buffer storage device 19 is 512 pixels. The display control device 11 can display either the contents of the frame buffer storage device 23, or the contents of the overlay buffer storage device 19, or the contents of both on the auxiliary monitor 18.  
30 When the overlay buffer storage device 19 and the frame buffer storage device 23 are both being displayed, the frame buffer signal is reduced in

intensity to enhance visibility of the overlay information displayed on the auxiliary monitor 18. However, this is merely used as an example and should in no way be construed to limit the practice of the present invention.

5       The microprocessor 14 coordinate the storage of the images in the frame buffer storage device 23 and, concurrently, communicates with the generator means 10, via a bi-directional interface 50, allowing commands to pass from the remote control device 17 to the generator means 10. The microprocessor 14 also controls the main output signal 41 sent to the  
10   main monitor 12. The microprocessor 14 receives and interprets the commands received from the remote control device 17. Additionally, the microprocessor 14 writes all text and graphics to the overlay buffer storage device 19.

      In the overlay buffer device 19, the microprocessor 14 and the  
15   address generator 114 (see Figure 4) address an SRAM 203 via a pair of address buses, identified Nodes M and L, respectively. The SRAM multiplexer 201 multiplexes these buses to drive the address bus of a 32K x 8 SRAM 203. Such an SRAM is commonly available under a part designation Fujitsu MB84256A-10. When the multiplexer 201, comprised  
20   of four 74F158's, passes the addresses from the microprocessor 14 to the SRAM 203, the microprocessor 14 exchanges data with the SRAM 203 via a bi-directional buffer device 202 which in the preferred embodiment is comprised of a 74LS373 and a 74LS244. When the multiplexer 201 passes the addresses from the frame buffer address generator 114 to the  
25   SRAM 203, the SRAM data is loaded into an 8-bit shift register 204. Such a shift register is commonly available under a part designation 74HCT166. The output 205 of the 8-bit shift register 204 is coupled at Node H to the input of a logic block 117 which combines the output of frame buffer DRAMs 112-113 and the output 205 of the overlay buffer  
30   (see Figure 4).

      Using the designs described in Figure 3-5 and 7, the preferred

embodiment of the present invention can be practiced according to the sequence described in reference to Figures 6 (a)-(e). Although a preferred embodiment is described in which to practice the present invention, it should not be construed to limit the practice of the present  
5 invention.

Thus, a hand-held remote control device providing a auxiliary monitor for private viewing by the operator is described.

## CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A computer display system for displaying visual images comprising:

image generation means for generating visual images;

display control logic means coupled to said image generation means for controlling images being displayed by said computer display system;

storage means coupled to said display control logic means for storing said visual images generated by said image generation means;

remote control means coupled to said display control logic means and said storage means for selecting for display said visual images generated by said image generation means;

primary display means coupled to said image generation means for displaying primary visual images generated by said image generation means; and

secondary display means coupled to said remote control means for displaying secondary visual images.

2. A computer display system for displaying visual images comprising:

image generation means for generating visual images;

display control logic means coupled to said image generation means for controlling images being displayed by said computer display system;

storage means coupled to said image generation means for storing said visual images generated by said image generation means;

remote control means coupled to said display control logic means and said storage means for selecting for display said visual images generated by said image generation means;

switching means coupled to said image generation means and

said storage means for alternatively providing a connection to said image generation means or said storage means;

primary display means coupled to said switching means for displaying primary visual images generated by said image generation means; and

secondary display means coupled to said remote control means for displaying secondary visual images.

3. The computer display system as claimed in Claim 1 wherein said storage means is used only for storing said secondary visual images.

4. The computer display system as claimed in Claim 1 wherein said storage means is further coupled to said primary display means and said storage means is used for storing both said primary visual images and said secondary visual images.

5. The computer display system as claimed in Claim 2 wherein said storage means further comprising:

first storage means coupled to said switching means for storing both said primary visual images and said secondary visual images; and

second storage means coupled to said first storage means and said display control logic means for storing overlay visual images, said overlay visual images being combined with said visual images stored in said first storage means.

6. The computer display system as claimed in Claim 2 wherein said storage means further comprising:

first storage means coupled to said switching means for storing said primary visual images; and

second storage means coupled to said first storage means and

said display control logic means for storing said secondary visual images.

7. The computer display system as claimed in Claim 1 or 2 wherein said display control logic means incorporates a microprocessor.

8. The computer display system as claimed in Claim 1 or 2 wherein said secondary display means and said remote control means are housed in a portable and hand-held unit.

9. The computer display system as claimed in Claim 1 or 2 wherein said visual images displayed on said secondary display means include graphical, textual, or numerical images and any combination thereof.

10. The computer display system as claimed in Claim 1 or 2 wherein said primary visual images are different than said secondary visual images.

11. The computer display system as claimed in Claim 1 or 2 wherein said primary visual images are substantially similar to said secondary visual images.

12. The computer display system as claimed in Claim 1 or 2 wherein a user of said computer display system can preview on said secondary display means visual images subsequently displayed on said primary display means.

13. The computer display system as claimed in Claim 1 or 2 wherein a user of said computer display system can display on said



secondary display means visual images representing computer system control information.

14. The computer display system claimed in Claim 1 or 2 further including:

means for receiving a command signal sent from said remote control device;

means for generating a primary signal and a secondary signal associated with said command received from said remote control device.

15. The computer display system claimed in Claim 1 or 2 further including:

means for receiving a command signal sent from said remote control device;

means for generating a secondary signal associated with said command received from said remote control device.

16. In a computer display system having an image generation means for generating visual images, display control logic means coupled to said image generation means for controlling images being displayed by said computer display system, storage means coupled to said display control logic means for storing said visual images generated by said image generation means, remote control means coupled to said display control logic means and said storage means for selecting for display said visual images generated by said image generation means, primary display means coupled to said image generation means for displaying primary visual images generated by said image generation means, and secondary display means coupled to said remote control means for displaying secondary visual images, a means for controlling a computer display system comprising:

means for generating a primary signal and a secondary signal using said image generation means;

means for sending said primary signal from said image generation means to said primary display means;

means for sending said secondary signal from said image generation means to said display control logic means;

means for processing said secondary signal and sending a secondary output signal to said storage means, said secondary output signal sent to said storage means by said display control logic means; and

means for displaying said secondary output signal on said secondary display means.

17. In a computer display system having an image generation means for generating visual images, display control logic means coupled to said image generation means for controlling images being displayed by said computer display system, storage means coupled to said image generation means for storing said visual images generated by said image generation means, remote control means coupled to said display control logic means and said storage means for selecting for display said visual images generated by said image generation means, switching means coupled to said image generation means and said storage means for alternatively providing a connection to said image generation means or said storage means, primary display means coupled to said switching means for displaying primary visual images generated by said image generation means, and secondary display means coupled to said remote control means for displaying secondary visual images, a means for controlling said computer display system comprising:

means for generating a primary signal using said image generation means, said image generation means being connected to

said primary display means, said primary signal being sent to said primary display means;

means for capturing and storing said primary signal in said storage means;

means for setting said switching means to connect said primary display means with said storage means;

means for generating a second output signal, said second output signal being generated by said image generation means;

means for capturing and storing said second output signal in said storage means;

means for regenerating said first output signal, said first output signal being regenerated by said image generation means;

means for setting said switching means to connect said primary display means with image generation means; and

means for displaying said second output signal on said secondary display means.

18. In a computer display system having an image generation means for generating visual images, display control logic means coupled to said image generation means for controlling images being displayed by said computer display system, storage means coupled to said display control logic means for storing said visual images generated by said image generation means, remote control means coupled to said display control logic means and said storage means for selecting for display said visual images generated by said image generation means, primary display means coupled to said image generation means for displaying primary visual images generated by said image generation means, and secondary display means coupled to said remote control means for displaying secondary visual images, a method for controlling said computer display system comprising the steps of:

selecting a visual image for display on said secondary display means, said visual image being selected using said remote control device;

processing said visual image selected for display on said secondary display means, said visual image being processed using said image generation means and said display control logic means;

storing said visual image selected for display in said storage means; and

displaying said visual image stored in said storage means on said secondary display means.

19. In a computer display system having an image generation means for generating visual images, display control logic means coupled to said image generation means for controlling images being displayed by said computer display system, storage means coupled to said display control logic means for storing said visual images generated by said image generation means, remote control means coupled to said display control logic means and said storage means for selecting for display said visual images generated by said image generation means, switching means coupled to said image generation means and said storage means for alternatively providing a connection to said image generation means or said storage means, primary display means coupled to said switching means for displaying primary visual images generated by said image generation means, and secondary display means coupled to said remote control means for displaying secondary visual images, a method for controlling said computer display system comprising the steps of:

selecting a visual image for display on said secondary display means, said visual image being selected using said remote control device;

processing said visual image selected for display on said

secondary display means, said visual image being processed using said image generation means and said display control logic means;

storing said visual image selected for display in said storage means; and

displaying said visual image stored in said storage means on said secondary display means.

20. The method as claimed in Claim 18 wherein said storage means is used only for storing said secondary visual images.

21. The method as claimed in Claim 18 wherein said storage means is further coupled to said primary display means and said storage means is used for storing both said primary visual images and said secondary visual images.

22. The method as claimed in Claim 19 wherein a first storage means being coupled to said switching means, second storage means being coupled to said first storage means and said display control logic means, said storing step further including the steps of:

storing both said primary visual images and said secondary visual images in said first storage means; and

storing overlay visual images, said overlay visual images being overlaid with said visual images stored in said first storage means.

23. The method as claimed in Claim 19 wherein a first storage means being coupled to said switching means, second storage means being coupled to said first storage means and said display control logic means, said storing step further including the steps of:

storing said primary visual images in said first storage means;  
and

storing said secondary visual images in said second storage

means.

24. The method as claimed in Claim 18 or 19 wherein said display control logic means is a microprocessor.

25. The method as claimed in Claim 18 or 19 wherein said secondary display means and said remote control means are housed in a portable and hand-held unit.

26. The method as claimed in Claim 18 or 19 wherein said visual images displayed on said secondary display means include graphical, textual, or numerical images and any combination thereof.

27. The method as claimed in Claim 18 or 19 wherein said primary visual images are different than said secondary visual images.

28. The method as claimed in Claim 18 or 19 wherein said primary visual images are substantially similar to said secondary visual images.

29. The method as claimed in Claim 18 or 19 wherein a user of said computer display system can preview on said secondary display means visual images subsequently displayed on said primary display means.

30. The method as claimed in Claim 18 or 19 wherein a user of said computer display system can display on said secondary display means visual images representing computer system control information.

31. The method claimed in Claim 18 or 19 further including

the steps of:

receiving a command signal sent from said remote control device;

generating a primary signal and a secondary signal associated with said command received from said remote control device.

32. The method claimed in Claim 18 or 19 further including the steps of:

receiving a command signal sent from said remote control device;

generating a secondary signal associated with said command received from said remote control device.

33. In a computer display system having an image generation means for generating visual images, display control logic means coupled to said image generation means for controlling images being displayed by said computer display system, storage means coupled to said display control logic means for storing said visual images generated by said image generation means, remote control means coupled to said display control logic means and said storage means for selecting for display said visual images generated by said image generation means, primary display means coupled to said image generation means for displaying primary visual images generated by said image generation means, and secondary display means coupled to said remote control means for displaying secondary visual images, a method for controlling a computer display system comprising the steps of:

generating a primary signal and a secondary signal using said image generation means;

sending said primary signal from said image generation means to said primary display means;

sending said secondary signal from said image generation means to said display control logic means;

processing said secondary signal and sending a secondary output signal to said storage means, said secondary output signal sent to said storage means by said display control logic means; and

displaying said secondary output signal on said secondary display means.

34. In a computer display system having an image generation means for generating visual images, display control logic means coupled to said image generation means for controlling images being displayed by said computer display system, storage means coupled to said image generation means for storing said visual images generated by said image generation means, remote control means coupled to said display control logic means and said storage means for selecting for display said visual images generated by said image generation means, switching means coupled to said image generation means and said storage means for alternatively providing a connection to said image generation means or said storage means, primary display means coupled to said switching means for displaying primary visual images generated by said image generation means, and secondary display means coupled to said remote control means for displaying secondary visual images, a method for controlling said computer display system comprising the steps of:

generating a primary signal using said image generation means, said image generation means being connected to said primary display means, said primary signal being sent to said primary display means;

capturing and storing said primary signal in said storage means;

setting said switching means to connect said primary display means with said storage means;

generating a second output signal, said second output signal



being generated by said image generation means;

capturing and storing said second output signal in said storage means;

regenerating said first output signal, said first output signal being regenerated by said image generation means;

setting said switching means to connect said primary display means with image generation means; and

displaying said second output signal on said secondary display means.

1/10

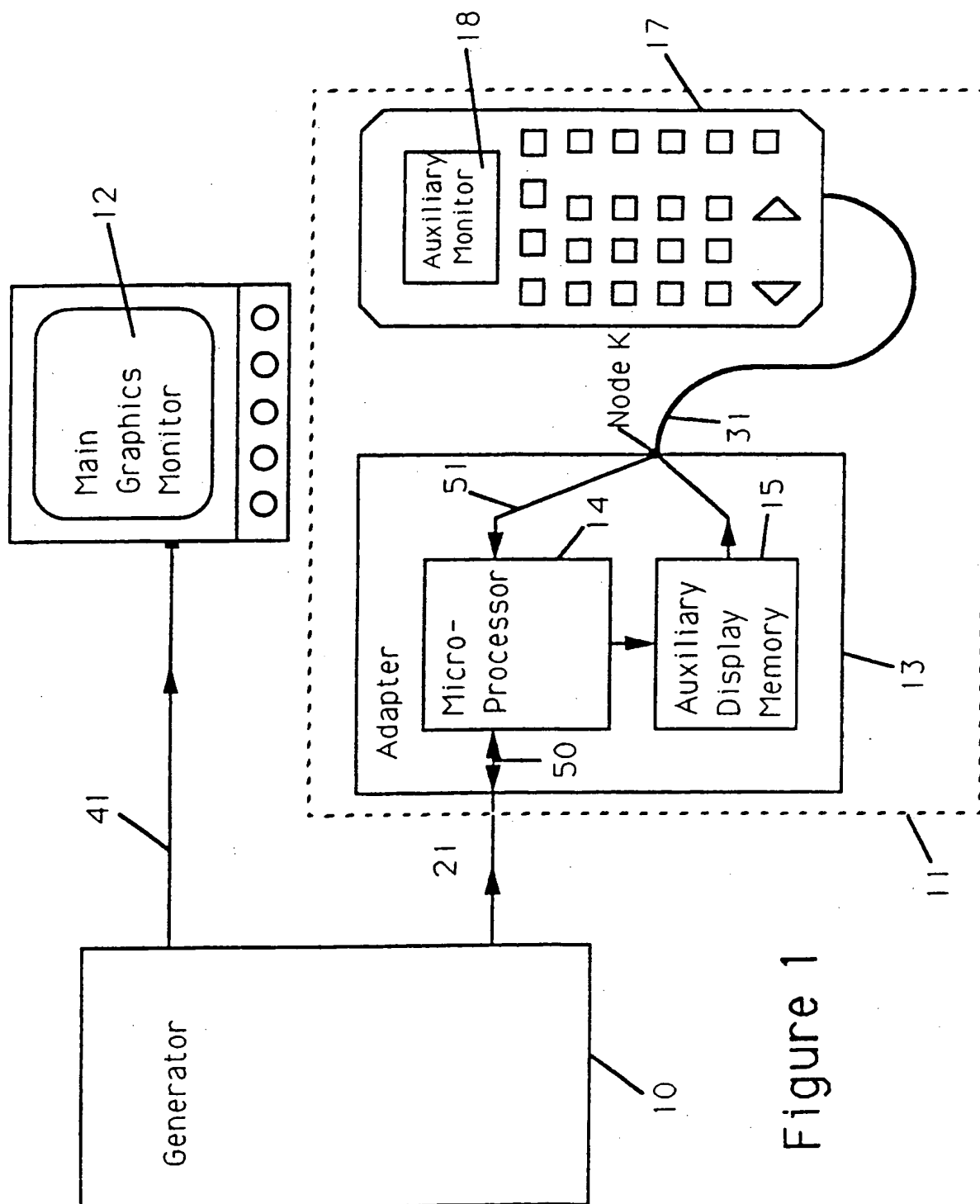


Figure 1

2/10

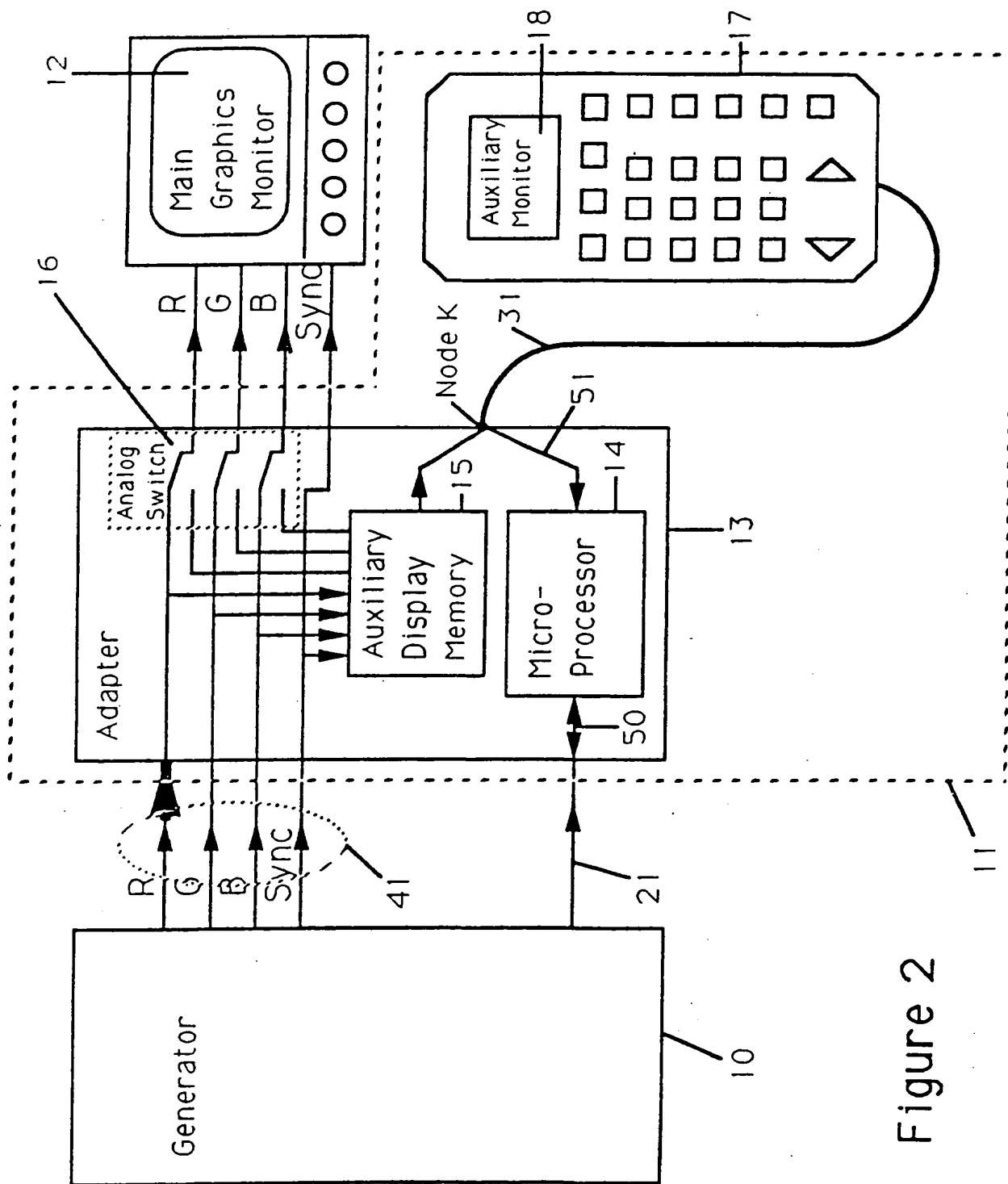
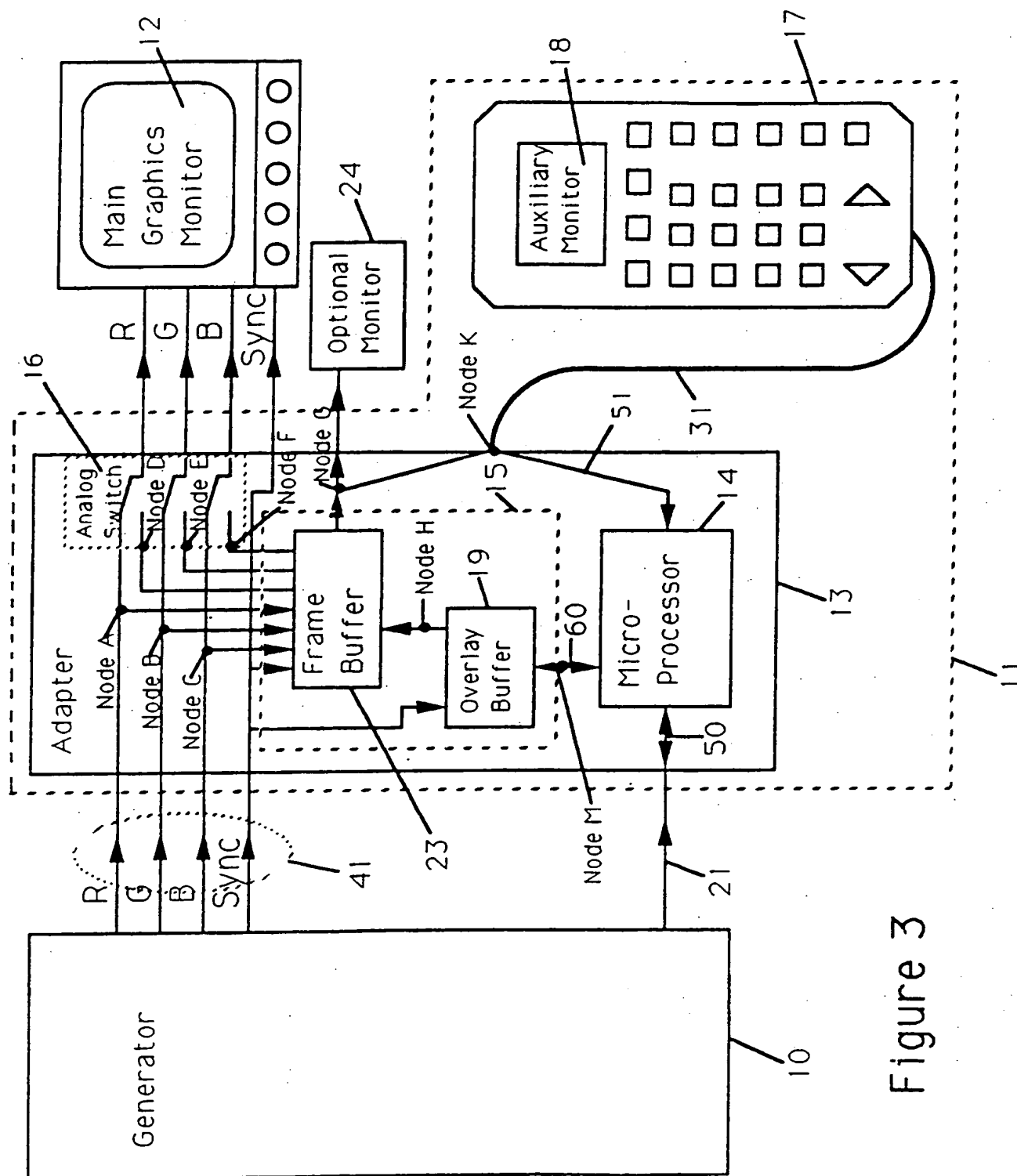


Figure 2

3/10



4/10

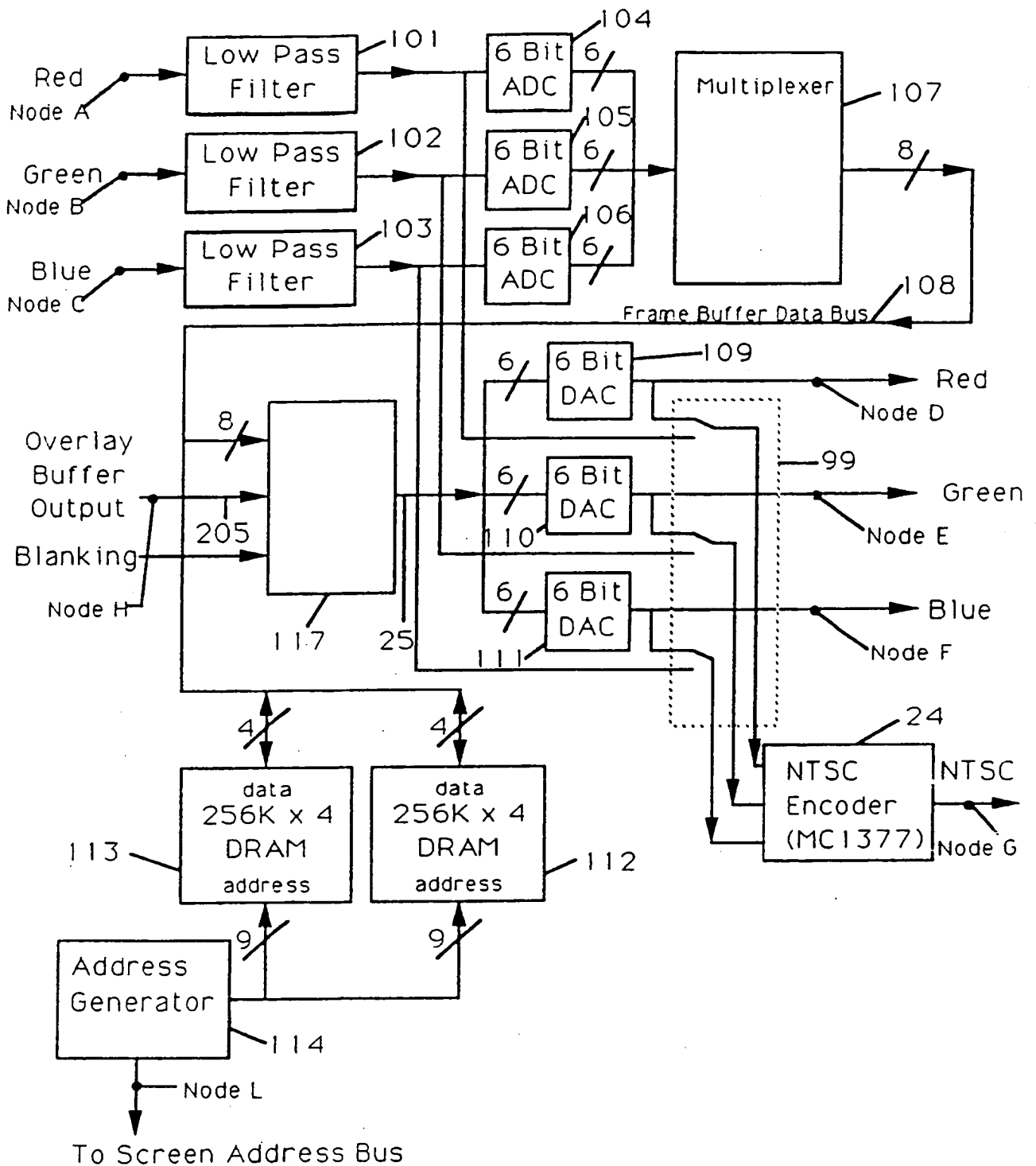


Figure 4

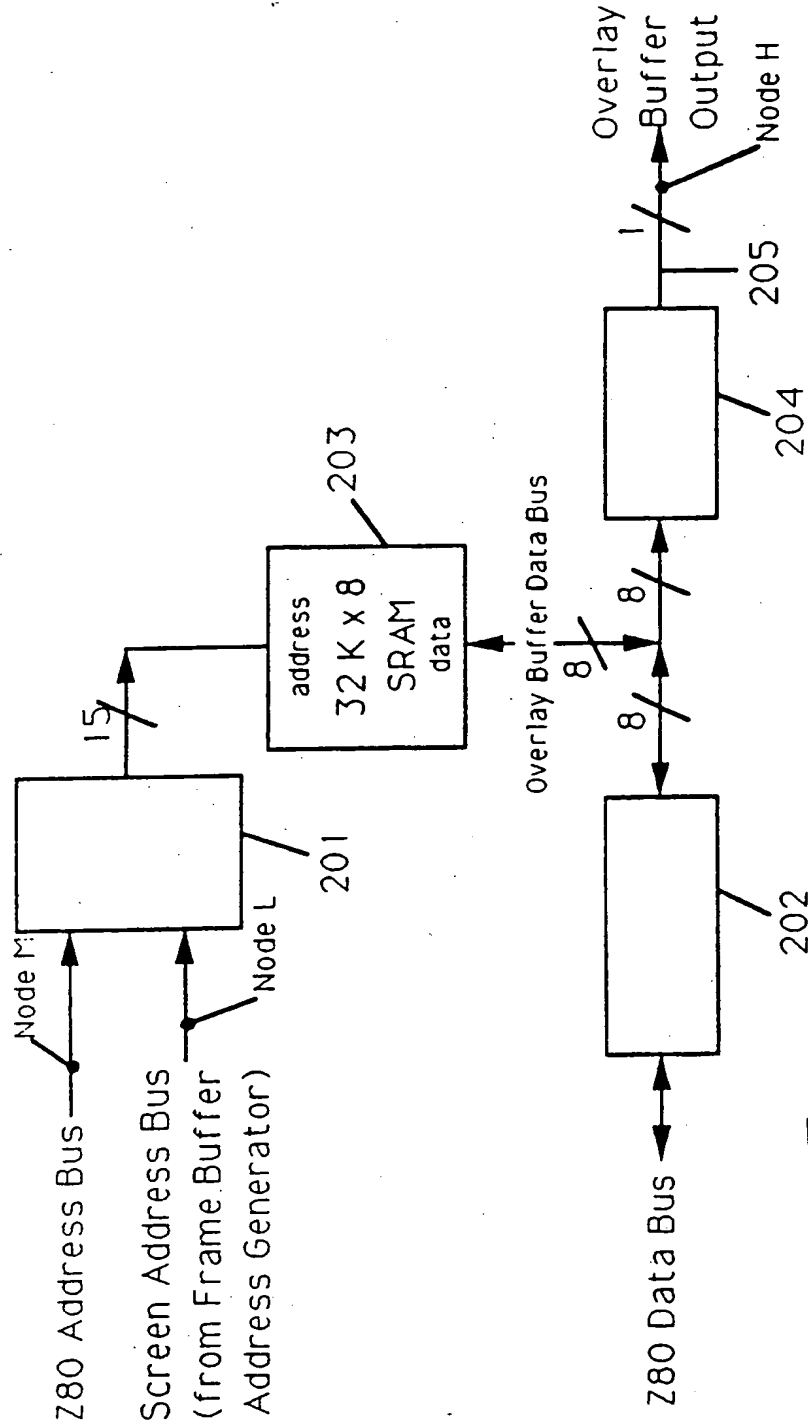
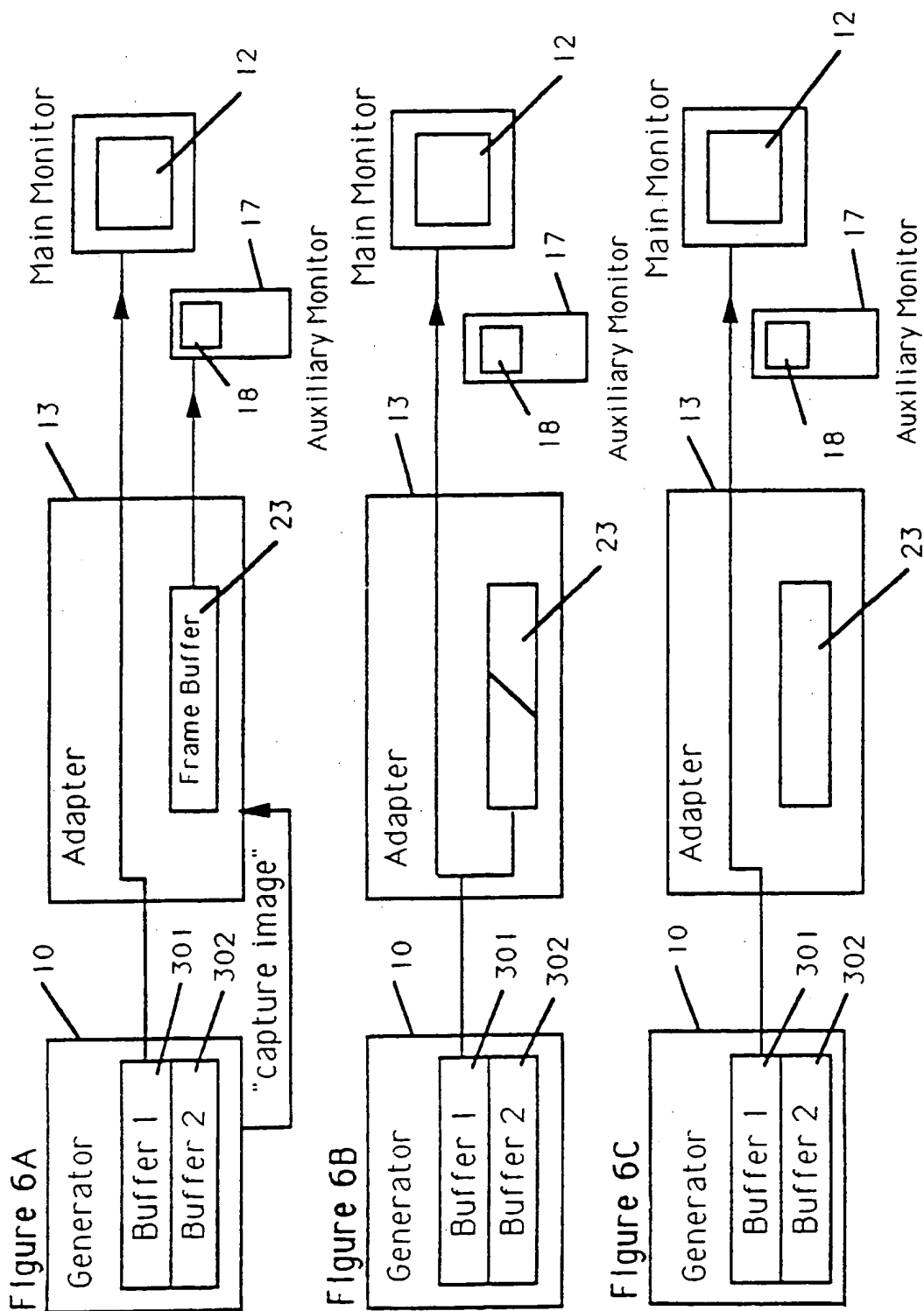
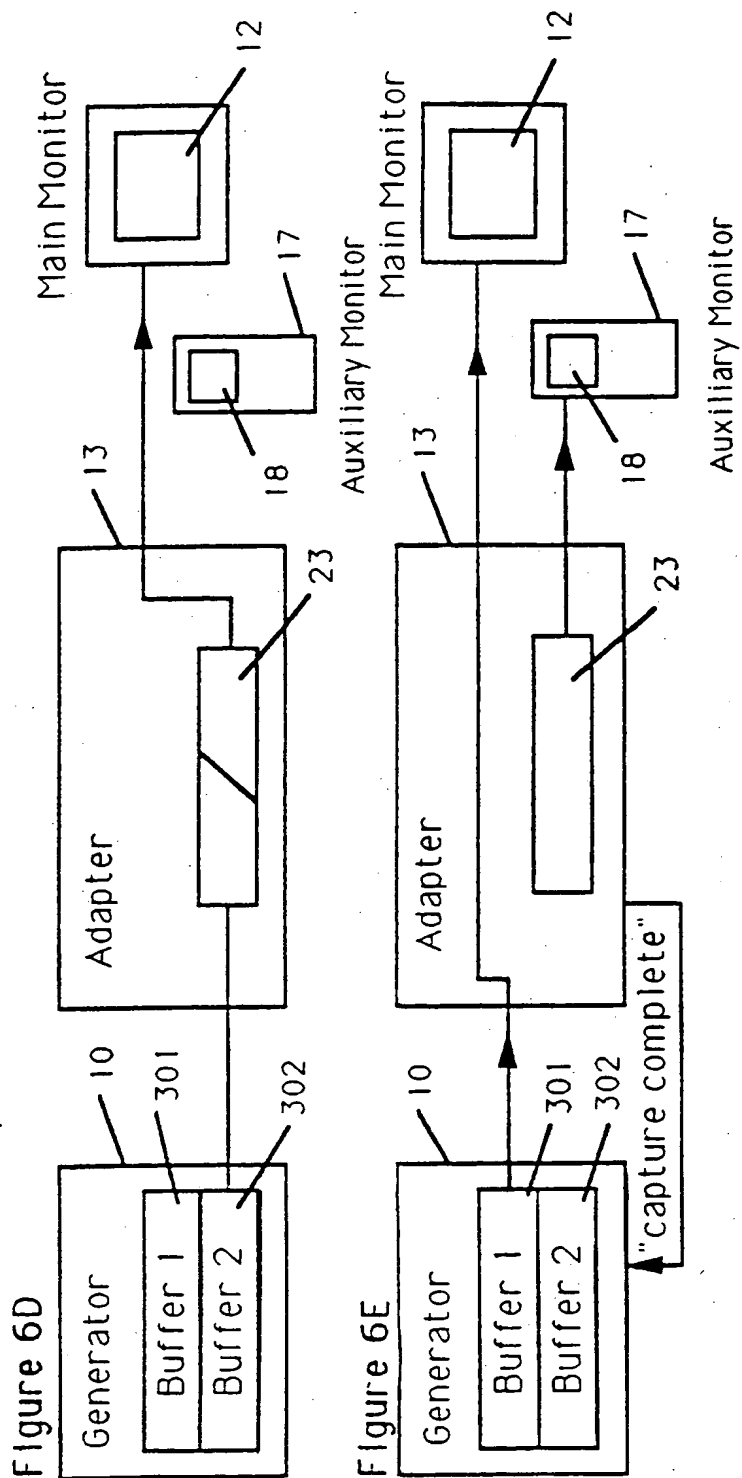


Figure 5

6/10



7/10





8/10

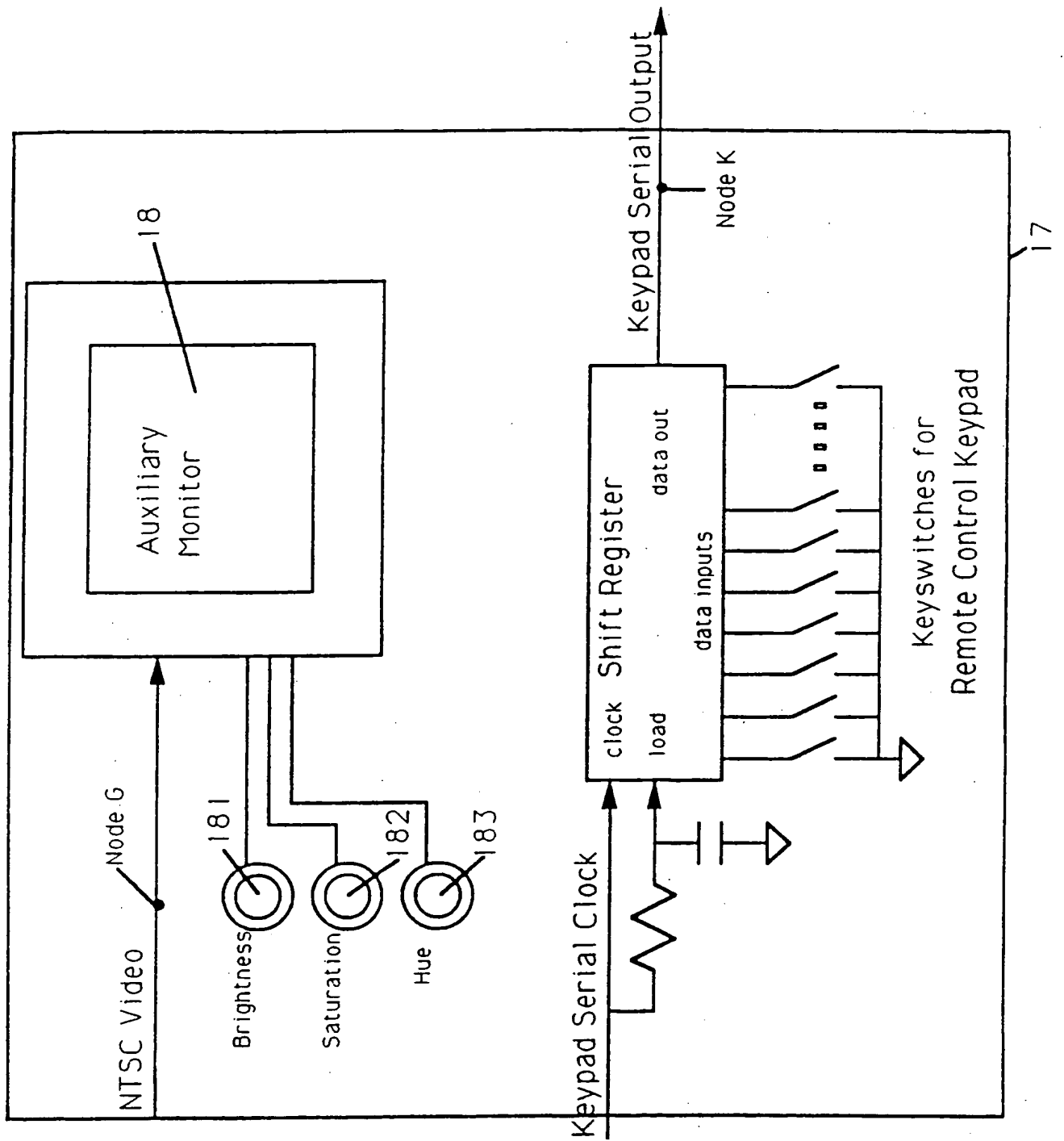
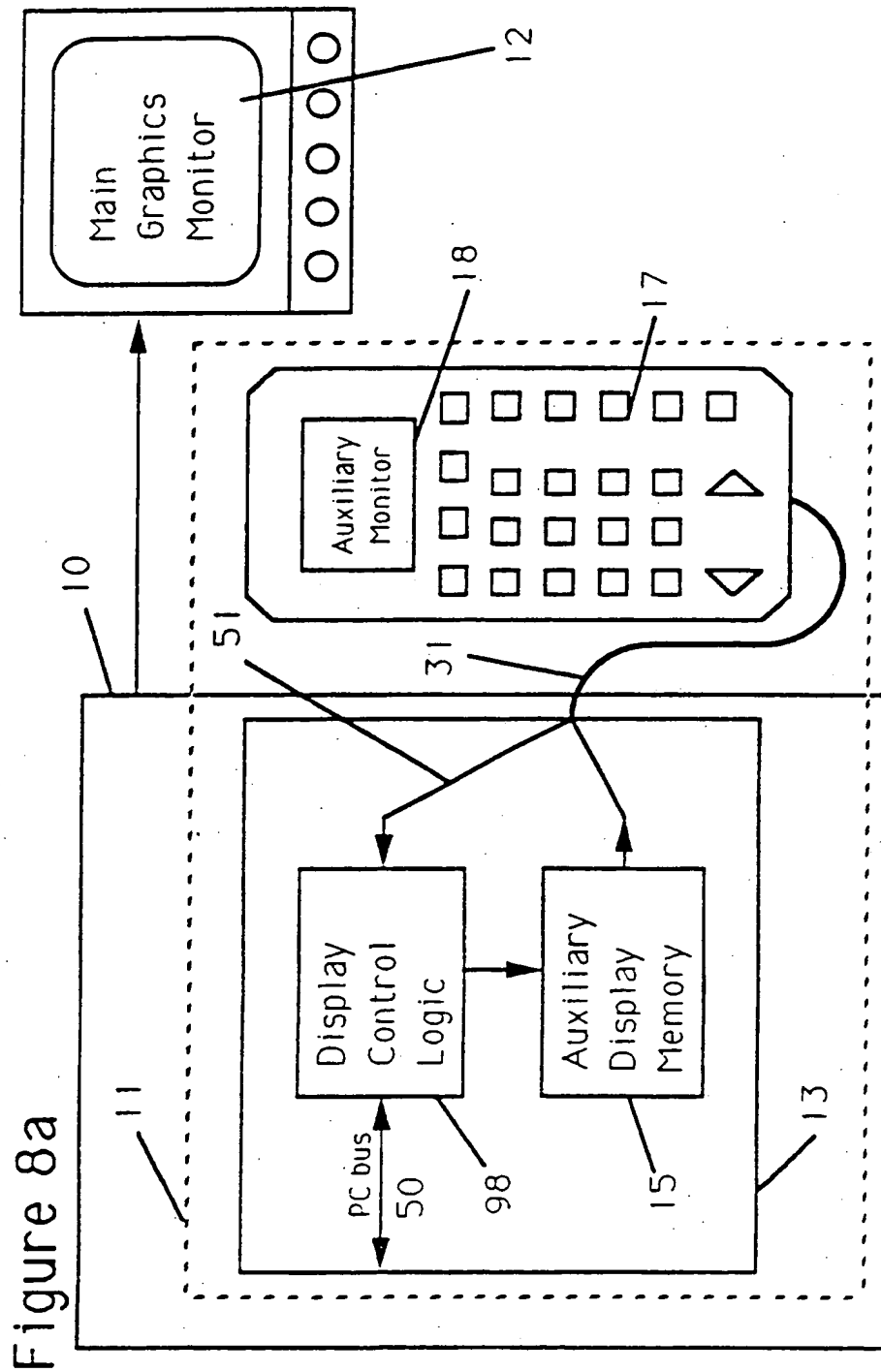
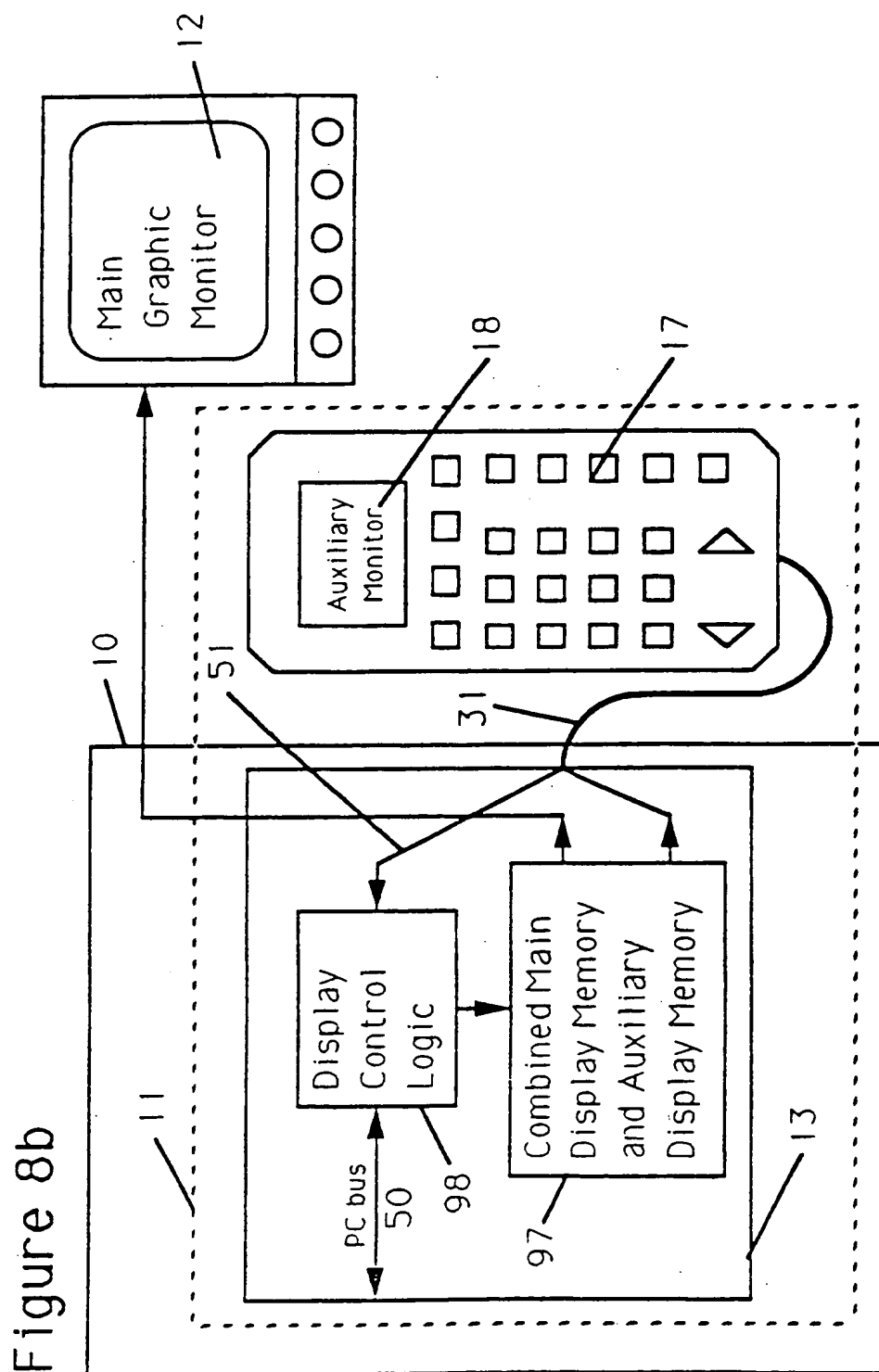


Figure 7

9/10



10/10



# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No. **PCT/US91/05859**

<b>I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b> (If several classification symbols apply, indicate all) <sup>6</sup> According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both National Classification and IPC <b>IPC(5): G09G 3/02</b> <b>US CL : 340/717</b>											
<b>II. FIELDS SEARCHED</b> <div style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">Minimum Documentation Searched <sup>7</sup></div> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="width: 20%; border-bottom: 1px solid black; font-size: small;">Classification System</th> <th style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; font-size: small;">Classification Symbols</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;">U.S.</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">340/717, 706, 825.69, 825.72, 825.56, 825.17 358/194.1, 22; 455/158, 151, 4; 341/17, 23 364/700, 710, 710.14</td> </tr> </table> <div style="text-align: center; font-size: small; margin-top: 5px;">Documentation Searched other than Minimum Documentation to the Extent that such Documents are Included in the Fields Searched <sup>8</sup></div>			Classification System	Classification Symbols	U.S.	340/717, 706, 825.69, 825.72, 825.56, 825.17 358/194.1, 22; 455/158, 151, 4; 341/17, 23 364/700, 710, 710.14					
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<b>III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT <sup>9</sup></b> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 10%; font-size: small;">Category <sup>9</sup></th> <th style="width: 70%; font-size: small;">Citation of Document, <sup>11</sup> with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages <sup>12</sup></th> <th style="width: 20%; font-size: small;">Relevant to Claim No. <sup>13</sup></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;">Y</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">US, A, 4,712,105 (KOHLER) 08 DECEMBER 1987 See figure 13; and column 4, lines 21-26.</td> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;">1-34</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;">Y</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">US, A, 4,745,402 (AUERBACH) 17 MAY 1988 See figure 1; column 2, lines 58-68 and column 3, lines 1-27.</td> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;">1-34</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Category <sup>9</sup>	Citation of Document, <sup>11</sup> with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages <sup>12</sup>	Relevant to Claim No. <sup>13</sup>	Y	US, A, 4,712,105 (KOHLER) 08 DECEMBER 1987 See figure 13; and column 4, lines 21-26.	1-34	Y	US, A, 4,745,402 (AUERBACH) 17 MAY 1988 See figure 1; column 2, lines 58-68 and column 3, lines 1-27.	1-34
Category <sup>9</sup>	Citation of Document, <sup>11</sup> with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages <sup>12</sup>	Relevant to Claim No. <sup>13</sup>									
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<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: small;"> <div style="width: 48%;"> <p><sup>10</sup> Special categories of cited documents:</p> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> </div> <div style="width: 48%;"> <p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.</p> <p>"d" document member of the same patent family</p> </div> </div>											
<b>IV. CERTIFICATION</b> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;">           Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search   <b>18 NOVEMBER 1991</b>            International Searching Authority   <b>ISA/US</b> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;">           Date of Mailing of this International Search Report  <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">24 DEC 1991</div>           Signature of Authorized Officer  <div style="text-align: center;">   <b>CHANH NGUYEN</b> </div> </td> </tr> </table>			Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search  <b>18 NOVEMBER 1991</b> International Searching Authority  <b>ISA/US</b>	Date of Mailing of this International Search Report <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">24 DEC 1991</div> Signature of Authorized Officer <div style="text-align: center;">   <b>CHANH NGUYEN</b> </div>							
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